

Remarks**Status of the Claims**

Claims 1, 15-17 are active.

Claims 2-9 have been cancelled.

Claims 10-14 have been withdrawn subject to a restriction requirement.

Claims 1, 16 and 17 have been amended. Claim 1 have been amended recite the limitation that hygroscopic glass frit is comprised of Bi_2O_3 and 0.8-30 wt% Al_2O_3 . Support for this amendment is found in Table1 and page 4 lines 3-9 of the specification. Claims 16 and 17 have been amended to recite the terms hygroscopic glass and based on weight of the hygroscopic glass frit, and support is found in original Claims 16 and 17 and in amended Claim 1. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102(b)

In [3] of the Office Action, Claims 1, 15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Watanabe et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0017864 (“Watanabe”). The Examiner states that Watanabe discloses sintering of low melting glass powder, and an optional inorganic white pigment to form barrier ribs and dielectric layer, in the manufacture of plasma display panels.

Amended Claim 1 of the application recites a screen-printable getter composition consisting of a hygroscopic glass frit that comprises Bi_2O_3 and 0.8-30 wt% Al_2O_3 , dispersed in organic medium comprising an organic polymeric binder and a volatile organic solvent. Claims 15-16 depend from amended Claim1, and Claim 17 depends from Claim 16.

Watanabe does not disclose or describe the getter composition consisting of hygroscopic glass frit that comprises Bi_2O_3 and 0.8-30 wt% Al_2O_3 as recited by amended Claim 1. Watanabe’s technical solution, is to provide a barrier rib and uses a low melting glass of the composition $\text{PbO-B}_2\text{O}_3\text{-SiO}_2$ optionally with a Al_2O_3 pigment. See Watanabe at col. 11, [212]. Applicants getter composition with hygroscopic glass frit comprising Bi_2O_3 and 0.8-30 wt% Al_2O_3 provides the moisture getting function upon sintering. The Bi_2O_3

functions to wet the glass frit and provides for the viscosity reduction required during sintering. It is surprising that hydrophobic Bi_2O_3 would function in a sintered getter composition that attracts moisture from its surroundings. Watanabe does not disclose or discuss Bi_2O_3 at all. This is not surprising because Watanabe does not teach nor disclose the manufacture of a getter composition for controlling moisture in a sealed enclosure container.

Accordingly, Watanabe does not anticipate the present invention, nor render it obvious and Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of Claims 1, 15-17.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102(b)/103

In [4] of the Office Action, Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Watanabe et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0017864. The Examiner states that Watanabe discloses the claimed concentration ranges of glass frit.

As discussed above, Watanabe does not describe or disclose the Applicants getter composition consisting of hygroscopic glass frit that comprises Bi_2O_3 and 0.8-30 wt% Al_2O_3 as recited in presently amended Claim 1 and its dependent Claim 16. Thus, Watanabe does not anticipate the Claim 16, nor render it obvious. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of Claim 16.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102(e)/103

In [5] of the Office Action, Claims 1 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kato et al., U.S. Patent Number 7,214,429 (“Kato”). As stated by the Examiner, Kato discloses a sealing material for an electron tube, and the sealing material comprising P_2O_5 -SnO type low melting glass and thermal expansion-controlling low melting ceramics, and fine particles selected from SiO_2 , Al_2O_3 and ZrO_2 .

In [6] of the Office Action, Claims 15-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Kato. As stated by the Examiner, Kato discloses a glass frit comprising 5-55 weight percent, and this weight percent is based on the total weight of the composition.

Kato does not disclose or describe a getter composition consisting of hygroscopic glass frit that comprises Bi_2O_3 and 0.8-30 wt% Al_2O_3 as recited in amended Claim 1. Specifically, Kato does not disclose Bi_2O_3 in a screen-printable getter composition. Kato discloses sealing materials comprising low melting glass of the composition P_2O_5 -SnO with SiO_2 , Al_2O_3 and ZrO_2 particles. The SiO_2 particles disclosed by Kato are for increasing sealing strengths of sintered sealed material. See Kato at col. 4, lines 39-42. Kato does not teach or disclose Applicants' getter composition consisting of a hygroscopic glass frit that comprises Bi_2O_3 and 0.8-30% Al_2O_3 for controlling moisture upon sintering. As it is surprising that hydrophobic Bi_2O_3 would function in a moisture attracting getter composition, and Kato does not disclose or suggest Bi_2O_3 , Kato does not anticipate render nor obvious the invention of Claims 1 and 15-17. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of Claims 1, 15-17.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested. Please charge any unaccounted fee that may be due, to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

Respectfully submitted,

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